Diversion of Unspent Railway Funds from Orissa

356. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 30 per cent of the total Budget allocation for Railway projects in Orissa has been spent till 30th January and as the funds could not be utilised, they are being diverted to other Railway projects in other States;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) whether Government would initiate action against officers who are responsible for non-utilisation of funds for Railway projects in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Accounts of expenditure of Railway projects are not maintained state-wise. Moreover, the amount spent during the year, project-wise, will be known only when the accounts for the financial year are finalised.

(b) and (c) Docs not arise.

Basic Facilities in Special Trains for Ahmedabad

357. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact tht no water and food was made available in special trains introduced from Ahmedabad for earthquake affected people;

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard and if so, the finding thereof; and

(c) how it is proposed to be ensured that all long route special and fee trains have minimum basic facilities of water and food?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) The railways

have made adequate arrangements of water and food for the passengers of trains carrying earthqwuake victims and their relatives. Catering stalls, trolleys and refreshment rooms were kept open round the clock on platfonns. Apart from this, food packets where also distributed by different Non-Government Organisations and local bodies free of cost at various stations enroute.

Closing Down of Railway Swimming Pool Kolkata

358. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item, "Adalater Nirdeshe Bandha Holo Reler Swimming pool-er-Kaj" appearing in Sambad Protidin, Kolkata dated 30th January, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the estimated cost of the swimming pool;

(d) whether the land was encumbered or litigated;

(e) if so, whether the same was overlooked before laying foundation stone, as reported, and the reasons therefor; and

(f) if not, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVUAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.